

Abstract Of The Disclosure

5 A hardware configuration and methodology for serializing or partially
serializing WRITE requests directed to a unified data set are subsequently distributed to one
or more remote arrays containing a corresponding mirror unified data set. For each unified
data set, one of the local disk arrays over which the unified data set is distributed is selected
as a supervisor disk array, and a unified sequence number component is included within that
supervisor disk array. WRITE requests generated by a local array to mirror unified data set
10 data to a mirror unified data set must be associated with a unified sequence number, and the
WRITE requests are therefore serialized or partially serialized by the unified sequence
number component. Additional direct communications links are provided between the local
arrays over which a unified data set is distributed both to facilitate WRITE-request
serialization and to provide a redundant communications paths for added reliability.

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